

Message Text

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APPROVED BY EA:PCHABIB

S/S:MR. KUCHEL

S:PEBARBIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 112467

EXDIS

E.O. 11652; GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VN

SUBJECT: U.S. RELATIONS WITH VIET-NAM

REF: PARIS 10628

EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO DELIVER FOLLOWING THIRD PERSON
NOTE TO DRV EMBASSY:

BEGIN TEXT:

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF VIET-NAM AND HAS THE HONOR TO CONFIRM RECEIPT OF THE
LETTER OF APRIL 10 FROM MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
NGUYEN DUY TRINH TO SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER.

THE DEPARTMENT REAFFIRMS THE WILLINGNESS OF THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM AT AN
EARLY DATE. IN DOING SO, IT WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT
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TALKS ON THE BASIS OF THE SELECTIVE APPLICATION OF PAST

AGREEMENTS, WHICH APPEARS TO BE THE OBJECTIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM, WOULD NOT BE FRUITFUL AND WOULD ONLY LEAD TO STERILE DEBATE RATHER THAN CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION.

THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BE MORE USEFUL FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS TO DISCUSS ISSUES AFFECTING FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. THE HUMANITARIAN CONCERN OF A FULL ACCOUNTING FOR OUR MISSING MEN WILL BE ONE OF THE PRIMARY ISSUES OF THE UNITED STATES IN SUCH DISCUSSIONS. UNTIL THIS ISSUE IS SUBSTANTIALLY RESOLVED, THERE CAN BE NO REAL PROGRESS TOWARDS NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

AT THE SAME TIME THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM WILL BE FREE TO RAISE ANY ISSUE OF CONCERN TO IT. THE UNITED STATES INVITES THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM TO INDICATE WHETHER IT CONSIDERS A MEETING TO DISCUSS OUTSTANDING ISSUES USEFUL. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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